

Section 2 Outline of the National Security Strategy

1 Background and Overview

The security environment surrounding Japan is becoming even more service. Therefore, to continually foster an affluent and peaceful society, it is more important than ever for the entire government to address national security policy in a uniform manner by defining Japan's desired track within the international community based on a long-term vision of its national interests. This is what embodies Prime Minister Abe's order in September 2013 to draw up the National Security Strategy (NSS) with a focus on foreign and defense policies.

The NSS was formulated concurrently with the revision of the National Defense Program Guidelines (NDPG). To facilitate this process, in September 2013 the Government convened the Council on Security and Defense Capabilities, comprising experts and other officials. The council met on seven occasions and vigorous discussions were held. The completed NSS which was deliberated on by the National Security Council, which was established on December 4, 2013, and was approved by the National Security Council and Cabinet on December 17, 2013.

The NSS focuses over the next decade or so. The National Security Council will regularly and systematically evaluate and update the NSS as appropriate through the government's implementation process.

2 Fundamental Principle of National Security

1 Principles Japan Upholds - Proactive Contribution to Peace based on the Principle of International Cooperation

Japan is a major economic power with a rich culture and tradition. Japan upholds the universal values of freedom, democracy, respect for fundamental human rights, and the rule of law. At the same time, Japan is also a major maritime state. Since the end of World War II, Japan has consistently followed the path of a peace-loving nation and maintained an exclusively defense-oriented policy, not becoming a military power that poses a threat to other countries and observing the Three Non-Nuclear Principles.

Japan is committed to continuing its path as a peace-loving nation and, as a major player in international politics and business, it also seeks its own security as well as peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region from its stance as a proactive contributor to peace based on the principle

of international cooperation. Japan will contribute more proactively than ever before to the peace, security and prosperity of the international community.

2 Japan's National Interests and National Security Objectives

To achieve the fundamental principle of national security by implementation of concrete policies, Japan needs to clearly define its national interest and national security objectives.

Japan's national interests are defined as:

- To maintain its sovereignty and independence; to defend its territorial integrity, to ensure the safety of life, person and properties of its nationals, and to ensure its survival while maintaining its own peace and security grounded in freedom and democracy and preserving its rich culture and tradition;
- To achieve the prosperity of Japan and its nationals through economic development, thereby consolidating its peace and security; and
- To maintain and protect international order based on rules and universal values, such as freedom, democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of law.

In order to safeguard these national interests and to fulfill Japan's responsibilities in the international community, Japan will work to achieve the following national security objectives.

- Strengthen the deterrence necessary for maintaining Japan's peace and security and for ensuring its survival, thus deterring threats from directly reaching Japan, and to defeat such threats and to minimize damage if by chance such threats should reach Japan.
- Improve the security environment of the Asia-Pacific region and prevent the emergence of and reduce direct threats to Japan, through strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance, enhancing the trust and cooperative relationships between Japan and its partners within and outside the Asia Pacific region, and promoting practical security cooperation.
- Improve the global security environment and build a peaceful, stable and prosperous international community by strengthening the international order based on universal values and rules, and by playing a leading role in the settlement of disputes.

See ▶ Fig. II-3-2-1 (Layout of the NSS and the New NDPG)

3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan and National Security Challenges

1 Global Security Environment and Challenges

The balance of power between countries continues to change with the rise of China, India, and other developing nations. Meanwhile, the U.S. remains the country that has the world's largest

power as a whole and has manifested its policy to shift its emphasis of national security and economic policy towards the Asia-Pacific region.

Rapid advancements in globalization and technological innovation have increased relative influence of non-state-actors, and at the same time, they have led to an increase in terrorism and criminal threats from non-state actors.

The issue of the transfer, proliferation, and performance improvement of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and ballistic missiles, and in particular, North Korea's nuclear and missile development and Iranian nuclear program remain major threats to Japan and the international community.

Advancements in globalization have caused the proliferation and diversification of international terrorism. In fact, acts of terrorism have injured Japanese nationals living abroad and damaged Japan's national interests. This means that Japan and its people are directly exposed to the threat of international terrorism at home and abroad.

In recent years, there has been an increase in unilateral attempts to change the current status quo of the maritime aspect of the global commons by force for the purpose of securing resources or a country's own national interests. This trend and the issue of piracy on the high seas contribute to greater threats posed to stable sea lanes and the freedom of navigation. With regards to outer space, there are risks inhibiting the continual and stable use of space caused by testing of anti-satellite weapons and an increase in space debris resulting from collisions of satellites in orbit. As for cyber space, the risks of cyber attacks that seek to hinder military systems and destroy social infrastructure are becoming more and more serious.

Global issues that cannot be dealt with by a single country – namely, poverty, global health challenges, climate change and other environmental issues, food security as well as humanitarian crises caused by civil wars and natural disasters – are emerging as critical and urgent issues of human security, threatening the very survival and dignity of individuals. Additionally, there is a growing risk that one country's economic crisis can expand to involve the entire global economy.

2 National Security Environment and Challenges in the Asia-Pacific Region

Characteristics of the strategic environment in the Asia-Pacific region is that there are various political systems and a concentration of nation states that possess large-scale military force,

including nuclear weapons. However, regional cooperation frameworks on national security have yet to be fully legislated.

North Korea has enhanced the capability of its WMDs including nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles as well as repeatedly carried out provocative military actions and issued provocative rhetoric directed at Japan, increasing tension in the region. In particular, North Korea's ballistic missile development, including those with the range to reach the U.S. mainland, along with its attempts to miniaturize nuclear weapons and mount them to ballistic missiles, substantially aggravates the threat to the region's security, including Japan.

There is an expectation for China to share and comply with international norms, and play a more active and cooperative role for regional and global issues. On the other hand, China has been rapidly strengthening and expanding its military capabilities without sufficient transparency. China has taken actions that can be regarded as attempts to change the current status quo in the maritime and aerial domains of the East China Sea and South China Sea by coercion based on its own assertions that are incompatible with the existing order of international law. The relationship between the sides of the Taiwan Strait has deepened, primarily in economic areas, but the military balance has been changing. This indicates the mutual existence of stability and potential instability.

4 Japan's Strategic Approach to National Security

1 Strengthening and Expanding Japan's Capabilities and Roles

(1) Strengthening Diplomacy for Creating a Stable International Environment

The key of national security is to create a stable and predictable international environment, and prevent the emergence of threats. Japan will play a more proactive role in achieving peace, stability and prosperity for the international community and will carry out dynamic diplomacy to achieve an international order and security environment desirable for Japan.

(2) Building a Comprehensive Defense Architecture to Firmly Defend Japan

Given the severe security environment, Japan will efficiently develop a highly effective and joint defense force, adapting to changes in strategic environment and its national power, and strive to ensure operations with flexibility and readiness based on joint operations. Japan will strive to broaden coordination with government institutions, local governments, and the private sector, and Japan will continue to build, in peacetime, a comprehensive architecture for responding seamlessly to an array of situations, ranging from armed attacks to large-scale natural disasters. In developing the structure of the SDF, which plays a central role in the above

initiatives, Japan will reinforce its defense structure for deterrence and response to various situations, prioritizing important functions from a joint and comprehensive perspective.

With regards to the threat of nuclear weapons, the extended deterrence of the U.S., with nuclear deterrence at its core, is indispensable. To maintain and enhance the credibility of this extended deterrence, Japan will work closely with the U.S. and take appropriate measures through its own initiatives, including ballistic missile defense (BMD) and protection of its people.

(3) Strengthening Efforts for the Protection of Japan's Territorial Integrity

Japan will enhance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies responsible for territorial patrols and reinforce its maritime surveillance capabilities. Japan will also strengthen coordination among relevant ministries and agencies to be able to respond seamlessly to a variety of unexpected situations. Japan will make a constant review on issues that are relevant to ensuring the security of its territories, and take effective measures. Additionally, Japan will proactively engage in the protection, management and development of remote islands near its national borders as well as study land use on remote islands near national borders and areas surrounding defense facilities, from the standpoint of national security.

(4) Ensuring Maritime Security

As a maritime state, Japan will play a leading role in maintaining and developing "Open and Stable Seas," which are upheld by maritime order based upon such fundamental principles as the rule of law and ensuring the freedom and safety of navigation and overflight. In addition, Japan will strengthen its maritime surveillance capabilities, which are essential for the above-mentioned measures, in a comprehensive manner, including the use of outer space. In particular, sea lanes from the Middle East to the surrounding waters of Japan are critical to Japan due to its dependence on maritime transport from the Middle East for the majority of its natural and energy resources. As a result, Japan will provide assistance to those coastal states along these sea lanes and other states to enhance their maritime security capabilities, and will strengthen cooperation with partners that share the same strategic interests.

(5) Strengthening Cyber Security

Japan will help ensure the free and secure use of cyber space by protecting it from malicious activities and will reinforce its national capabilities for protection and response in order to guard critical social infrastructure systems against cyber attacks. In peacetime, Japan will strengthen public-private partnerships and comprehensively consider expanding the pool of human resources in the security field and take necessary measures. To promote these measures, Japan

will take measures to strengthen international cooperation at both technical and operational levels as well as promote cyber defense cooperation.

(6) Strengthening Measures against International Terrorism

Japan will first and foremost strengthen its domestic measures against international terrorism such as ensuring the security of nuclear facilities in Japan. Moreover, in order to ensure the safety of Japanese nationals living abroad, Japan will reinforce measures against international terrorism including information gathering and analysis of intelligence relating to the situation of international terrorism.

(7) Enhancing Intelligence Capabilities

Japan will fundamentally strengthen its information-collecting capabilities from a diverse range of sources, including HUMINT, OSINT, SIGNINT, and IMINT. Additionally, Japan will promote the utilization of geospatial intelligence with which various types of intelligence are combined. Moreover, Japan will enhance its intelligence analysis, consolidating, and sharing capabilities by developing highly-skilled intelligence experts. Japan will promote comprehensive analysis of intelligence using the array of intelligence means at the disposal of its government.

(8) Defense Equipment and Technology Cooperation

Japan needs to become more proactively involved in contributions to peace and international cooperation through the utilization and provision of heavy machinery and other defense equipment carried to disaster-stricken countries and sites by the SDF, and to participate in the joint development and production of defense equipment. Given this, while giving due consideration to the roles that the Three Principles of Arms Exports have played thus far, Japan will define clear principles on the overseas transfer of arms suited to the new security environment¹.

See ▶ Part IV, Chapter 1, Section 3 (Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology)

(9) Ensuring the Stable Use of Outer Space and Promoting Its Use for Security Purposes

In addition to enhancing and reinforcing the functions of information-gathering satellites, Japan will make effective use of satellites and enhance a system for space situational awareness. Furthermore, Japan will promote the development and utilization of outer space in a manner that

¹ Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology were approved by the Cabinet on April 1, 2014.

contributes to national security over the medium to long term, including technologies that support the development and utilization of outer space.

(10) Strengthening Technological Capabilities

Japan must strengthen its technological capabilities by encouraging the further promotion of technologies, including dual use technologies. Japan will strive to grasp science and technology trends in peacetime and make effective use of technology in the area of national security by combining the efforts of industries, academia, and the government.

2 Strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance

Japan will work with the U.S. to revise the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation, through discussions on concrete defense cooperation and approaches to bilateral roles, missions, and capabilities (RMC), while ensuring consistency with various policies in line with the Strategy. Japan will work closely with the U.S. on operational cooperation and policy coordination as well as strive to enhance the deterrence and response capability of the Japan-U.S. Alliance by strengthening cooperation in a wide range of areas, including BMD, maritime affairs, outer space, cyber space, and large-scale disaster response operations.

In addition to measures to reduce the cost burden of the U.S. Forces in Japan, it is also important for Japan to steadily implement measures following Japan-U.S. agreements on the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan in order to reduce impacts placed on local communities, including in Okinawa, while continually maintaining and enhancing the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

3 Strengthening Diplomacy and Security Cooperation with Japan's Partners for Peace and Stability in the International Community

Japan will strengthen cooperative relations with countries with which it shares universal values and strategic interests, such as the ROK, Australia, the countries of ASEAN, and India.

As for China, Japan will strive to construct and strengthen a Mutually Beneficial Relationship Based on Common Strategic Interests in all areas and from a medium- to long-term perspective. Japan will encourage China to play a responsible and constructive role for the sake of regional peace, security and prosperity. Japan will also respond to China's attempts to change the current status quo by coercion firmly but in a calm manner.

With regard to the issue of North Korea, Japan will endeavor to achieve a comprehensive resolution to outstanding issues of concern, such as the abduction of Japanese nationals as well as nuclear and missile issues based on the Japan-North Korea Pyongyang Declaration, joint announcements of the Six-Party Talks and U.N. Security Council Resolutions.

As for Russia, Japan will advance cooperation with Russia in all areas, including security and energy, and work together toward peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region.

In promoting the initiatives mentioned above, Japan will actively utilize multilateral and trilateral frameworks for cooperation.

Japan will also cooperate with other partners of the Asia-Pacific region toward ensuring stability in the region. These partners include Mongolia, Central Asian countries, Southwest Asian countries, the Pacific Island Countries, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Chile.

Furthermore, Japan will strengthen cooperative relations with European countries, emerging countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Turkey, Argentina and South Africa, Middle Eastern countries, as well as African countries to ensure the peace and stability of the international community.

4 Proactive Contribution to International Efforts for Peace and Stability of the International Community

Japan will strengthen its U.N. diplomacy by proactively contributing through efforts aimed at maintaining and recovering international peace and security at the U.N.

Japan will proactively participate in international rule-making and provide active support to international justice organs in terms of both human capital and finances. In particular, Japan will proactively involve itself in realizing and strengthening the rule of law relating to the sea, outer space, and cyberspace.

Japan will continue with its vigorous initiatives to seek a world free of nuclear weapons. Japan will lead international initiatives on disarmament and non-proliferation, including toward the resolution of North Korea's nuclear and missile development issues, while maintaining credibility and consistency with the extended deterrence under the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

Japan will further step up its cooperation with U.N. PKO and other activities. Japan will also proactively engage in training for peacebuilding experts and PKO personnel in various countries under close coordination with related countries and actors.

Japan will promote consultations and exchanges of views with other countries on the situation of international terrorism and international counter-terrorism cooperation and assist with the reinforcement of the international legal framework to punish terrorists.

5 Strengthening Cooperation Based on Universal Values to Resolve Global Issues

In order to strengthen the foundation for peace, stability and prosperity of the international community, Japan will endeavor to share universal values, respond to global development and global issues and realizing human security, cooperate with human resource development initiatives in developing countries, maintain and strengthen the free trade system, respond to energy and environmental issues, and enhance people-to-people exchanges.

6 Strengthening the Domestic Foundation that Supports National Security and Promoting Domestic and Global Understanding

Japan will endeavor to efficiently and effectively procure defense equipment and will maintain and enhance defense production and technological bases, including enhancing international competitiveness.

With the Prime Minister's Office serving as the control tower, Japan will take a government-wide approach to uniformly and strategically disseminate information and, while maximizing various information technologies, Japan will also strengthen its information dissemination in foreign languages through various media.

In order to reinforce the social base, Japan will foster respect for other countries and their people, as well as love for the country and region. Japan will also raise awareness with regard to security on such issues as territory and sovereignty as well as make initiatives to broaden understanding of the activities of the SDF and the U.S. Forces in Japan.

In order to enhance its intellectual base, Japan will seek to strengthen education on security-related subjects at institutions of higher education and deepen exchanges between the government and higher education institutions and think tanks. Through these initiatives, Japan will promote the development of private sector experts and government officials.